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STORIES OF OUR SOUTHLAND.

Larry Gantt's Weekly Letter.

Old Time Ministers—Uncle Jimmy Dannelly.

In old ante-bellum days, and especially in the rural sections, preachers were of an entirely different order from the ministers of the gospel in these advanced and modern times. They were clerical shoulder-hitters, who did not mince or choose their words and believed in and preached hell fire and brimstone. After one of these fiery sermons the hairs on the heads of the terrorized congregations stood out like quills upon a fretful porcupine. You could almost smell the brimstone and broiling flesh as they depicted the horrors of torment that was the sure heritage of unpenitent sinners.

One of the most noted preachers of the South was an old wooden-legged Methodist named "Uncle Jimmy Dannelly," who lived about one and a half miles from Lowndesville, Abbeville district, South Carolina, near old Smyrna church. He officiated in the early fifties. He was a stout-built man and I should say weighed around 180 pounds. His home was within 8 miles of Smyrna church and close to the old camp-ground of that name. This church has been moved to Lowndesville and the railway from Anderson passes within a few feet of the large graveyard belonging to the church and in which many of the remarkable men of that section are buried.

"Uncle Jimmy" Dannelly hated three things above all else: Foppery and gaudy apparel; inattention to services during his long-winded sermons, and immorality. Some of his denunciations from the pulpit against the latter sin were so strong and expressive as not to be printed at all.

"Uncle Jimmy's" fame as a preacher spread all over the state and he was once invited to preach a sermon in a fashionable church of Charleston, S. C. He had a piercing, high-pitched voice. After mounting the pulpit and taking his text, the old gentleman glancing over the building and then throwing his eyes into the gallery, set apart for slaves in many city churches before the war, began his discourse with: "I was told when invited to preach in this great city and to this gaudily-arranged congregation that they were very refined people and I must be careful what I said, lest I offend their sensitive ears. From the number of mulattoes I see sitting in that gallery, I should judge that the people of Charleston are indeed refined. Yes, the same sort of refinement that brought about the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah." He then delivered a powerful sermon on the subject and told his hearers if they did not repent their city deserved the same fate as brought on the destruction of the Dead Sea towns.

And he could not bear anything like a display of pride or hypocrisy. There was a member of his church, a wealthy man, whom I shall call Benjamin Blank. This man built a real nice new home, the best in the neighborhood, of which he was very proud. Once at Smyrna "Uncle Jimmy" preached a strong sermon about people in their old age, instead of devoting their wealth and time to the cause of God, were spending their substance in riotous living and the erection of fine palaces to live in.

After services, the house-builder approached Uncle Jimmy, who was surrounded by a number of his flock and remarked: "Brother Dannelly, I do not think you did me the right thing today in preaching that sermon about my new home. It was my own money I put in it and every dollar was honestly made."

Looking at Brother Blank the old man calmly replied, "Benjamin, you are mistaken about my having the shanty you built in my mind when I selected my subject today. I referred to a house the Altons erected near Charleston. Why they would not use the hut you built and are so proud of for a garden house. If you had not been so mean and close-fisted and stingy you would have built a decent house for your family long ago. Benjamin, I was not shooting at you, and my little shot from the pulpit today did not come within two hundred miles of you."

When "Uncle Jimmy" first came to Lowndesville to preach, a leading member of his congregation, who had a fine farm and prided himself on building higher fences, having fatter horses and better clad slaves than any of his neighbors approached the old man and remarked, "Brother Dannelly, I want to say that I am a very poor man and have but little, but you are welcome to share it. I want you to take dinner with me today."

He expected "Uncle Jimmy" to contradict his expression of poverty and thus feed his vanity. The old man saw at a glance his object and replied: "I thank you Brother Jones, but there are plenty of well-to-do members in the church who are better able to entertain me, and I make it a rule never to impose on the poorer members of my little flock. I will not take from your family a part of their pittance. I will call and see you when passing, but do not deprive your family to entertain me." And he never could be induced to take a meal there, although Brother Jones did everything possible to make "Uncle Jimmy" realize his true condition.

My father says that "Uncle Jimmy"

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CALLS FOR "MOSES" TO LEAD FARMERS.

Would Repeat the Reform Movement of 1890.

Mr. C. P. Hodges, well known farmer of Brownsville, writes as follows to the Columbia State: To the Editor of The State: It appears to an onlooker as well as to one who is vitally interested in the political and governmental affairs of our state that a farmer's revolution in the affairs of state is imminent another year in South Carolina. Somebody might as well take notice, for the past ten or twelve years have been wholly dominated in South Carolina by lawyer governors and lawyer members of the general assembly. As a result of this state of affairs, the state's nervous system has been prostrated, as well as her business affairs, and conditions have gone from bad to worse. The farmers of South Carolina, are tired of these conditions and, watch what I tell you, we are going to change them at the first opportunity.

When you put a lawyer in the governor's chair and fill the general assembly with lawyers and politicians, you have simply got the devil to pay. Any man of ordinary sense knows that the average lawyer by his education, training and profession can not be an all round statesman. He is ever and eternally playing the game for himself or his client; he is always looking forward to something he has not, and this within itself, on vital issues, makes him a straddler and politician. All lawyers have their eyes on big business and big business, as little as you think about it, has a powerful influence upon the lawyers in the general assembly. This of course does not always apply to the best lawyers, but all the best lawyers do not by any means get to be governors or members of the general assembly.

And again, the lawyer that is elected governor or to the legislature does not expect to remain there always; he knows that none of these offices are going to furnish permanent means for a livelihood, so while in office serving the people ostensibly he is looking out for big business for a job.

"Whose bread I eat, his song I sing." The lawyer has a great way when running for office of telling such monstrous number of half lies, he is an expert along this line, a buffoon in a campaign just as he is in a court house on a case. Owing to his power of trained manipulation and scheming, he actually makes the farmers believe that they have no capable leaders among themselves and are incapable of governing themselves.

Hear them on the stump and in the halls of the legislature, and you hear a confusing and conglomerated mess even to a thinking mind, and to the unthinking mind the politician lawyer has done more to destroy the independent thinking and voting capacity of the masses of the people, by his studied deception and villainous lies to the people, than all other agencies combined in a generation. We have certainly found it to be a fact, that from the politician lawyer in most cases you can not determine what he is going to do by what he says, and these lawyer politicians have created more mischief, discord and trouble, than the people of the state know what to do with, and we farmers especially are very tired of it and have determined, by the help of God, to put a stop to it another year. We are beginning the fight today and we give the lawyer politician due notice. Talk about the farmer being the backbone of the state, what grand people we are, etc., is the kind of filthy dope that is dished out to him every two years merely to get his vote, and after that you can plow on.

It is a foregone conclusion without a doubt, and I believe that 90 per cent of all classes of our farmers will fully agree with me that in our horrible condition there is no lawyer or set of lawyers in the state that can lead us out of the mire; but to the contrary would make matters a thousand times worse.

Then, you ask, who is to lead us? I answer, that somewhere hidden back in South Carolina, there is a great big man, a man with a vision, a man free from trickery and political manipulation, a man whose heart sincerely yearns to help and serve all the people, a man who has never held office and is not an old political hack, a man who would impress his moral and righteous life upon all the people, a man who would see to it that taxes were equitably distributed, and that the rich corporations and money powers would bear a just proportion of taxes and that taxes all along the line be reduced and, last a man who would get up a general assembly of farmers and business men to see that all these farmers were carried out.

You say that your ideals are high, and ask the question, Where are you going to find him? I answer: A farmer from the backwoods where we found Ben Tillman 30 years ago.

Ninety per cent. of the lawyers in the state fought Ben Tillman to the death. My fellow farmers all over the state, let me implore you to stand together, let us get seriously busy today to find us a man; a Moses to lead us out of our great troubles, a man from among us, a man who has followed the plow, a man who has

DILLON READY TO ACT.

Promoters Claim that Dillon and Marlboro Show No Interest in Calhoun Highway.

The following is taken from the Pee Dee Advocate: Mayor T. C. Crosland has received the following letter: Cheraw, South Carolina, September 10, 1921.

Dear Sir:—Re: Matter Calhoun Highway Association.

It now seems that on account of a lack of interest in Bennettsville and Dillon the Calhoun Highway will have to run by Darlington and Florence so as to tap the Wilmington highway at Florence.

I am still of the opinion that the route by Bennettsville and Dillon offers the best solution of this problem. Do you think there is any chance of getting the local interest aroused so as to get this road to the North Carolina line, as the North Carolina people have already assured me that they will take care of their end?

With kindest personal regards I am Yours very truly,

R. E. Hanna, S. C. Vice-President Calhoun Highway Association.

Little Interest Taken.

Mayor Crosland says: "It is a shame for us to lose the chance of getting this highway. I called a meeting of the business men once or twice, and as the people take so little interest in the matter, I am at a loss to know what to do. If the people will show the proper interest we can get it, but if we sit down and let it go, it suits me."

Why by Florence?

This road certainly ought to come by Bennettsville. Although the people may not show sufficient interest, this county will do its share. It already has a good road from the Cheraw bridge via Bennettsville and McColl to the N. C. line, and via Bennettsville and Dunbar to the Dillon line, where Dillon takes it up with a splendid highway. Marlboro is going to have even a better road when it completes its link of the state highway on the Cheraw bridge to the Dillon line.

To go by Darlington and Florence from Cheraw would be 20 to 30 miles out of the way. If it goes that way it will miss Cheraw, for the travel would eventually turn down by Camden and Bishopville to Florence.

Besides, there is no bridge across the river below Cheraw, and is not likely to be soon. In fact, the Atlantic Coast highway is preparing to go from Florence around by Cheraw to Wilmington, instead of waiting for the uncertain Pee Dee bridge, as the following communication in Tuesday's State and News and Courier shows:

(Dillon's position in the matter is this: Dillon was asked several weeks ago to meet with representatives from Cheraw. Dillon citizens got representatives from Rowland and the meeting was held at the court house. The Cheraw representatives explained the plans under which the highway was to be built, Dillon and Rowland citizens pledged their support. This meeting adjourned, but nothing further was heard from the Cheraw folk. Dillon and Rowland are ready to do their part any time they are called upon. They are awaiting further instructions from Cheraw where the vice-president of the proposed highway lives.—Editor Herald.)

Rally Day Sunday Sept. 25.

Enlistment day at the Dillon First Baptist church Sunday school will be observed next Sunday, Sept. 25th. The pupils of primary and junior departments will furnish most of the program, which promises to be instructive and entertaining. Service begins promptly at 10 o'clock. The public is cordially invited to attend this service.

Auditor Allen and Treasurer Watson are in Columbia this week attending the state-wide meeting of auditors and treasurers. Treasurer Watson is down on the program for the response to the address of welcome.

made brick without straw and a man who knows when and where his dollars come from and will know where yours go to.

Let us organize now. Politicians never sleep on the job; they are ever alert with their devilish combines. My fellow farmers all of South Carolina is looking to us to save the state from a hell of strife and from these lawyer politicians, which is sure to come if we allow them full sway as heretofore. Regardless of any past partisan affiliations I appeal to all the farmers to become a unit in an effort to save our state.

We can stay here in great peace and prosperity if we can get our own farmer leaders to rule over us and legislate for us, but mark my prediction; as we undertake to carry out our plan of organization you will find that half the lawyers in the state are going to try to tear us to pieces and try to move heaven and earth to that end allow me to appeal to every farmer in the state to begin today the search for him, and when you find him publish it to the world. "In the multitude of counsel there is wisdom." C. P. Hodges. Brownsville.

TRAIN SMASHES AUTO

Emory Davis, Driving Car, is Seriously Injured.

The A. C. L. Palmetto Limited, southbound, smashed into an automobile driven by Emory Davis at the Carolina Milling Co's, crossing early Thursday morning, smashing the automobile into kindling wood and seriously injuring Mr. Davis.

Following the accident Mr. Davis was taken to the Florence Infirmary where an X-ray examination disclosed a compound fracture of the skull and for several days his condition was critical. At present he is recovering rapidly and seems to be out of danger.

Mr. Davis was doing some electrical work at the sweet potato storage warehouse recently erected by Dr. Stackhouse. He left the warehouse and entered his automobile to go out to the edge of town to look after some wires on the same line which were giving trouble. The warehouse is in a few feet of the main track of the Coast Line.

His car was still in low gear when he reached the crossing and he did not see the swiftly moving train until it was within a few feet of him. He barely had time to step out on the running board when the train struck the machine with a crash that could be heard several blocks. The car was lifted into the air and carried over Mr. Davis. Mr. Davis being thrown against some pieces of lumber. If he had remained in the car it is probable that he would have been killed.

J. W. Edgerton, who works with the Carolina Milling Co., was the only witness to the accident. Mr. Edgerton says he heard the train make two short blasts of the whistle and as he turned to look he saw Mr. Davis leave the automobile and almost at the same time the engine struck the machine. The automobile was tossed over Mr. Davis' body and into the air. It struck the track right in front of the engine and was caught by the pilot the second time and tossed into the air.

He rushed to Mr. Davis' aid and found him sitting up with a ghastly looking wound about the size of a dollar in his forehead. He secured an automobile and Mr. Davis was taken up town immediately. Upon reaching the drug store he got out of the automobile unassisted, walked to the rear of the store and took a drink of water. A few minutes later he asked for a coca cola which he drank and then lighted a cigarette which he smoked with remarkable calmness and deliberation, insisting all the while that he was not badly injured and would soon be all right. Dr. Craig, Coast Line physician, examined the wound and insisted that Mr. Davis go on to Florence and have an X-ray examination made. This he did and an operation was necessary to remove parts of bone. Later in the day he developed hemorrhages at the mouth and nose and his condition became so critical that his family was summoned to his bedside.

The automobile was a total wreck.

Sellers.

Miss Elizabeth Sellers and Mr. Paul Oliver were married on Wednesday, September 14th, 1921 at the district parsonage, Marion, S. C., Rev. D. A. Phillips officiating. The bride is the accomplished daughter of Mrs. Jacqueline Sellers and the groom is a son of Mr. Shepard Oliver of Marietta, N. C. Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Oliver left in their car for a short honeymoon trip to Columbia and the mountains, after which they will be at home to their many friends at Marietta, N. C.

Mrs. J. C. Sellers and daughters, Misses Leila and Kathleen left Wednesday for Washington, D. C., where they expect to spend the winter. Miss Kathleen will attend the city schools.

Rev. P. K. Crosby, Mr. B. B. Sellers, with Misses Celeste and Nelle Sellers and Miss Eva Crosby left Wednesday for Columbia. They were present at the opening exercises of Columbia College where the young ladies matriculated for the coming session.

Mr. D. E. Oliver has moved into the old Sellers home.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Harris have moved into the house recently occupied by Mr. Oliver.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Patrick spent Sunday in Conway.

Miss Love Ritch has returned to her home at Oriental, N. C.

Fork.

Miss Lucile Bethea is spending some time in Greensboro with her sister, Mrs. C. E. Rogers.

Misses Willie and Sadie Moore have returned to Coker College to resume their studies.

Mrs. Clarice Edgeworth of Hemingway spent Saturday and Sunday here with her sister, Mrs. N. B. Calhoun. Misses Thelma Rogers and Carrie Tart left Wednesday morning for Columbia College.

Messrs. Hubert Welch and C. E. Taylor spent the week end at the farmers home at Sumter.

Mrs. Maxey Adams and little son of Dillon are visiting Mrs. S. A. Owens.

Messrs. Eugene Carmichael, Carroll Braswell and Burt Roberts left last week for Wofford College.

Mrs. Carrie Lewis has returned home from Southport, N. C. and was accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Bensol, who will spend some time here with relatives.

FIRST SERVICE IN NEW CHURCH

All Denominations Worshipped With Presbyterians in Handsome New Home Sunday.

More than 500 people representing the several denominations of the town worshipped with the Presbyterians in their handsome new church building last Sunday morning. Many who could not find seats stood outside the doorway, the church will not be formally dedicated until some time in October and the occasion last Sunday was the informal opening of the church for religious worship.

The building of this handsome edifice of worship called for many sacrifices on the part of the Presbyterian denomination, but their reward lies in a knowledge of the fact that they have built one of the handsomest Presbyterian churches in the state—a building that will stand as a monument to the energy and perseverance of this faithful band of Christian men and women. Not only do the Presbyterians themselves feel a pardonable pride in their achievement, but everybody in Dillon, irrespective of denomination, rejoices with them over the accomplishment.

The building proper was erected at a cost of \$35,000, not including the land which, owing to its ideal location, is very valuable. The total cost of the furnishings will approximate \$15,000, making the total cost of the church \$50,000.00 in round numbers. The interior is in keeping with the handsome exterior, polished oak being used in the woodwork throughout the entire building.

The handsome pipe organ in the rear just behind the pulpit was donated by Mrs. J. A. Moore and her daughter, Miss Emilu, as a memorial to the late J. A. Moore who was an officer and one of the leading spirits in the church.

The pulpit and divan were donated by Mrs. Lillian Williams as a memorial to her husband, the late Leroy Williams, who was also a member and officer of the church.

The communion service, including the tables and elder's benches, were donated by Mrs. J. E. Sprunt and son, James Sprunt, as a memorial to the late J. E. Sprunt who was a lifelong member of the church.

The draperies were donated by Mrs. R. A. Chandler, mother of the pastor, Rev. W. B. S. Chandler. The runner and rugs were donated by Mr. Steed Stackhouse, one of the younger members and also an officer in the church.

The heating plant, which will be installed in time for the dedicatory service, was donated by Mr. E. B. McEachern.

The church has a seating capacity of 450 adults and will carry a mixed congregation of adults and children of about 550.

Mrs. C. E. Walker, the new music teacher at the High School, has consented to act as organist, and presided at Sunday's service.

What makes the achievement still more remarkable is the fact that the building and its furnishings are almost paid for and the small balance due on subscriptions will be paid in full by the middle of October. The unpaid balance represents a very small sum and Mr. Chandler says he has assurances that this balance will be paid by the middle of next month. As soon as the debt is paid in full the church will be formally dedicated.

In the course of his remarks Sunday in which he gave a brief history of the church Mr. Chandler made special mention of the splendid services Mr. J. Earle Bethea rendered in securing subscriptions to the church. Mr. Bethea, although a member of another church, was one of the first Dillonites to suggest to Mr. Chandler that now was the time for the Presbyterians to erect a new house of worship. Mr. Bethea assisted Mr. Chandler in preparing the subscription lists, and himself raised the greater part of the subscriptions that came from outside sources.

Not only is the building a credit to the denomination, but it is also a credit to the town.

Death of Mr. J. M. Tolar.

Mr. J. M. Tolar, for many years a resident of Dillon, died suddenly on the 13th. Mr. Tolar had been in fairly good health and his death came as a shock to his friends and relatives. During his residence in Dillon Mr. Tolar followed the profession of a carpenter and contractor. He was a skilled workman and his services were always in demand. He was 54 years of age and is survived by his wife and five children. The interment was made at Pleasant Grove church Wednesday afternoon, the services being conducted by Dr. Duncan, the Odd Fellows of which he was a member having charge of the funeral arrangements.

Fire Damages Automobile

Bennettsville, Sept. 20.—Much excitement was caused in this city Sunday afternoon when the automobile of J. B. Maxwell, well known lumber man here, caught fire on Broad street, directly in front of the court house. The fire blazed merrily for a few minutes, but was extinguished by chemicals before the car was greatly damaged. The fire was the first in several weeks for Bennettsville, which is said to have one of the best fire records in the state.

REPORT OF GRAND JURY

To the Honorable Court: This is to certify that the Grand Jury has met this day and performed the usual duties devolving upon this body. The work of the grand jury has been conscientiously and faithfully performed every single member showing the utmost consideration for each and every detail of the several presentments, indictments and other matters pertaining to the county government.

We hereby present the Dillon Mills for constructing and maintaining a dam across Maple Swamp which by backing water on the cemetery and otherwise constituting a public nuisance.

The Grand Jury has investigated the offices of the county and find that the books are in excellent shape. The audit by the Comptroller General's office, which was recently made was very complimentary to the officers of the county.

The Grand Jury finds that the Sheriff's office has not been conducted as creditably as it should be to either the Sheriff or the county, and it is hereby recommended that the Sheriff, C. S. Bethea, improve his conduct and that the employees of his office be obtained from strong drink and men whose record is above reproach, and that the reputation of Dillon county be safeguarded through greater efficiency on the part both of himself and other peace officers under his charge.

(Signed) L. Cottingham, Foreman.

SAME THING HAPPENED IN FAYETTEVILLE.

If the history of the world had been recorded in detail since the beginning of man there would be nothing new under the sun. History has a habit of repeating itself, not only in warfare but in the ordinary things of the day.

Four or five years ago Dillonites visiting the Cape Fear Fair at Fayetteville watched a man as he ascended in a balloon for the purpose of making a jump from the clouds. As the balloon dashed away from the earth the spectators were horrified to see a man dangling head downward from the ropes and making frantic efforts to clutch the rope above and pull himself up. The man was a spectator and was so interested in watching the balloon as it dashed away that he failed to see the coil of rope that gradually tightened around his foot as the balloon ascended. The shouts of the people attracted the attention of the balloonist, and looking downward he discovered the unwilling passenger. The balloonist, however, was powerless. He had to let the balloon reach a certain height before he could cut his parachute loose. He yelled to the man to hold tight, and the moment the balloon reached a safe height he cut the parachute loose and brought the man back to the earth in safety. The man did not even suffer a scratch, but when he reached the earth again he was the wildest man in Cumberland county. Later he brought a suit for damages against the Cape Fear Association and the case was heard in the superior court.

Dillonites who witnessed this thrilling scene vowed and declared that nothing like it had ever happened before. History does not record anything like it, but according to Monday's papers the same thing happened Sunday afternoon in Brussels, Belgium, in the balloon race for the James Gordon Bennett trophy. Fourteen balloons contended for the trophy, and as one of the balloons dashed away the spectators were horrified to see a soldier, who had become tangled in the ropes while assisting in holding down the Belgian balloon, whisked away through space hanging head downward. The Belgian balloonists, however, were in a basket and they reached down and hauled the unfortunate man up to safety.

As between the two incidents the Fayetteville incident was far more thrilling. The Fayetteville balloon was sitting on the cross bar of his parachute and could not pull the man up. He had to let the balloon reach a great height before he could cut his parachute loose or he and his unwilling passenger would have been dashed to death. The extra weight on the parachute made the descent extremely hazardous but in this perilous position the balloonist displayed a wonderful spirit of courage and heroism and succeeded in bringing the parachute to the ground in safety.

The bus line between Marion and Conway is being operated according to schedule. The bus makes double daily trips, leaving Conway in the afternoon just ahead of the Atlantic Coast Line train. It is said the railroad officials are taking serious notice of the new bus line and are investigating the feasibility of extending the railroad to Aynor on to Marion or Mullins. Until the bus line was opened Conway had poor connections with the towns of the state. It was a long journey to the Horry capitol and a trip there meant the loss of a day.